

UNIVERSAL ACCREDITATION

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we witnessed the tragedy of an inter-country adoption gone wrong when a 7-year-old boy was forced back, alone, to Russia. Last year over 12,000 children from around the world were adopted by American families, yet only a fraction of these adoptions were processed by accredited adoption agencies. The others occurred under an unregulated process that may not have the best interests of the families or the child in mind.

Just over 2 years ago, the United States became a full member of the Hague Convention on Inter-Country Adoption. Under the Convention, the United States requires that inter-country adoption service providers be accredited to improve transparency and accountability. Unfortunately, these rules only apply to adoptions from countries that have signed the Convention. Adoption agencies who work for non-Convention countries do not need to meet the accreditation requirements, and these agencies continue to conduct unregulated adoptions, creating a double standard for the treatment of children and families.

We must strengthen the adoption practices by requiring accreditation for all countries' adoption service providers. Universal accreditation will create an adoption process that is lawful, safe for the child, and respectful to the families involved.

CMS CHIEF ACTUARY'S ANALYSIS ON EFFECTS OF THE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

(Mr. WALDEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, the Speaker of the House told the National Association of Counties a while back that Congress needed to pass the health care bill so we could find out what's in it. Well, we are finding out now.

The Chief Actuary for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is the independent scorekeeper of legislation like this. Their report that they just issued said half of all seniors in America who are on Medicare Advantage plans, half, are going to lose that coverage under the bill that was signed into law.

Well, that's a big problem for seniors in Oregon. Oregon has had one of the highest penetration rates in the United States of seniors who wanted Medicare Advantage and signed up for it. I was out in Ontario, Oregon, not long ago, and the seniors there raised their hands and said, "Why are they taking away the Medicare Advantage I have?" We now know under this independent

evaluation half of them will lose that care, 38,000 seniors in my district alone.

We need to repeal and replace this law that was jammed through this Congress, Mr. Speaker.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Yesterday I urged all Americans to boycott the State of Arizona until this law is repealed. This law is unjust. It will only lead to the increase of racial profiling and hate crimes in the State, especially towards Hispanics.

This is a violation of the fourth and 14th amendment in the United States Constitution. It does not require local police officers to have a warrant. This new law will create a divide between people who are asked for legal documents and those who are not. This law will create distrust between police and the communities they protect. This law is backwards, and sets us back in time.

I urge Americans show their support of the boycott and wear a red, yellow, and blue wristband. This is an unjust law and must be overturned, and an example of why we need comprehensive immigration reform.

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THE DEBATE OVER HEALTH CARE REFORM IS ALIVE AND WELL

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, while some may believe that the debate over health care is behind us, the report that we received last week, which stated very clearly that this administration had determined that we would see a \$311 billion increase—increase—in health care costs over the next decade, was completely counter to what we and the American people were promised. We were promised that there would, in fact, be savings. So I think that, with this report, it is very clear that the debate continues to be alive and well.

Mr. Speaker, we need to take a step-by-step approach, ensuring that people can have access to insurance products across State lines and ensuring that meaningful lawsuit abuse reform takes place. Small businesses should be able to come together to buy at lower rates. We should have pooling to deal with preexisting conditions, and we should expand medical savings accounts.

Those five things, Mr. Speaker, will go a long way towards decreasing costs to ensure that every American will have access to quality, affordable health insurance.

SUPPORT WALL STREET REFORM

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, we need Wall Street reform. The collapse in the value of securities as a result of Wall Street's conduct caused our Nation's economic crisis. While Americans struggle to find work and to pay their mortgages, Wall Street continues to pay huge bonuses and to focus only on their profits.

Janet Orcutt of Kailua, Oahu, shared her story with me recently. Last August, Janet's son-in-law lost his job in this bad economy. This led to her daughter and son-in-law losing their home. Now her daughter, son-in-law, and 5-year-old grandson live with Janet and her two teenage children. With everyone living with them, Janet and her husband have had additional costs, which they charge to their credit cards. Each month, they fall farther behind.

Janet said, "We middle-income Americans are suffering while powerful Wall Street financial companies lobby against financial reform."

I share Janet's anger. Without reform, the current system will continue to harm the well-being of families like Janet's. The House has passed Wall Street reform. It is high time that the Senate does likewise.

THE NEW HEALTH CARE LAW FAILS ON ALL COUNTS

(Mr. CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, remember when we were told the whole point of the new health care bill was to lower health care costs and to insure all Americans? Well, the CMS, under the control of the Obama administration, estimates that the law fails on all counts.

Twenty million Americans who currently can't afford health care will be forced under duress to buy a product or will face fines in IRS action. Four million Americans still will not be able to buy health insurance, and they will pay \$33 billion in fines. Fourteen million will lose their employer-sponsored health care insurance. Twenty-three million Americans will still have no health care coverage in 2019. Twenty-one percent of the gross domestic product will be spent on health care after this law is implemented, which is much higher than if the Congress had done nothing.

You have to wonder: When did we know all of this, and why didn't we know about it before the vote was taken?

THE CONE OF SILENCE

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1